

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Each of a plurality of combined images is formed separately for each image carrier with respect to a length related to the circumference length ( $D_p \times \pi$ ) of the image carrier. There is provided a combined-image adjusting section for forming a combined image so that a density detecting section detects the density of the combined image at plural and substantially equal pitches within a range of at least one circumference length ( $D_p \times \pi$ ) of the image carrier, or so that the density detecting section detects the density average value of the combined image at plural and substantially equal pitches within a range of at least one circumference length ( $D_p \times \pi$ ) of the image carrier.